COMMUNITY PONDS PROGRAM CULBERTSON COMMUNITY FISHING POND Decision Notice and Response to Public Comment

Prepared by: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks July 9, 2019

Proposal and Final Action

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks approved funding for the Culbertson Community Fishing Pond in 2017. As part of that funding process, each project was reviewed for environmental compliance.

The Community Pond Program was established in the early 2000's to establish and implement a statewide program that promotes improvements to small waterbodies that have a strong community value. The objective of the Community Pond Program is to enhance fishing opportunities in or near Montana communities by providing funding that may be used to construct or improve public fishing ponds. Preference is given to projects that create or enhance opportunities for youth/family angling and youth/family angler education.

Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA)

MEPA requires Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) to assess the potential consequences of the proposed action for the human and natural environment. An Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared and released by FWP on June 5, 2019 for the Culbertson Community Fishing Pond Project. The 30-day public comment period ended July 5, 2019.

Summary of Public Comment

No comments were received.

Decision Notice

The public comment period closed, and no comments were received. Based on the EA's disclosures and analyses of potential impacts, FWP concludes that the proposed actions will not result in any significant impacts. For this project, FWP will adopt the draft EA as the final EA and proceed with the project as planned. Copies of the final EA is available upon request.

Thank you for your interest,

Michelle McGree

Community Ponds Program Manager

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks